

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 297893
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:AF/E:GSCOTT

APPROVED BY:AF/E:RPOST

S/S-O:SRPVALERGA

-----035574 140607Z /10

R 140538Z DEC 77 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T STATE 297893

NODIS

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM KHARTOUM DATED DECEMBER 13,
1977 SENT SECSTATE WASHDC IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 4363

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MILI, EG, SU, ET, IS, SO

SUBJECT: SUDANESE ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 297893

1. DURING OUR MEETING THIS MORNING, DECEMBER 13, PRESIDENT NIMEIRI VOLUNTEERED THE INFORMATION THAT SIAD BARRE HAS ASKED THAT EGYPT AND SUDAN SEND A BRIGADE EACH TO BE STATIONED IN BERBERA. MISSION OF THESE TROOPS WOULD BE TO OPERATE AND DEFEND THE SOVIET-BUILT MILITARY BASE THERE. ("YOU REMEMBER, SAID USED TO INSIST THAT THERE WAS NO BASE IN BERBERA", COMMENTED NIMEIRI.)

NIMEIRI THEN INQUIRED IF US POLICY AND ATTITUDE TOWARD HORN HAD CHANGED SINCE MY THANKSGIVING DAY DISCUSSION WITH PRESIDENCY MINISTER DR. BAHA. I SAID IT HAD NOT.

2. I TOLD NIMEIRI THAT EGYPTIANS HAD INQUIRED AS TO USG ATTITUDE TOWARDS EGYPT'S ENDING TROOPS TO SOMALIA. OUR RESPONSE TO SADAT HAD BEEN THAT DECISION WAS ONE FOR EGYPT TO MAKE IN THE LIGHT OF ITS PERCEPTION OF ITS OWN INTERESTS, BUT THAT USG WOULD NOT SUPPORT SUCH AN OPERATION IN ANY WAY. IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT SADAT HAD SUBSEQUENTLY DECIDED NOT RPT NOT TO SEND EGYPTIAN FORCES TO BERBERA. NIMEIRI THEN SAID THAT WAS A WISE DECISION ON SADAT'S PART. HE DIDN'T THINK SADAT SHOULD BE SENDING TROOPS OUTSIDE EGYPT WHILE HE WAS SO URGENTLY SEEKING PEACE WITH ISRAEL.

3. NIMEIRI SAID THAT HE WAS WILLING TO SEND TROOPS TO SOMALIA UNDER THREE CONDITIONS. THE FIRST WAS THAT HE COULD NOT SPARE MORE THAN A THOUSAND MEN. THE SECOND WAS THAT EVERY ITEM OF THEIR EXPENSES AND EQUIPMENT, EVEN INCLUDING MILITARY SALARIES, WOULD BE PAID BY SAUDI ARABIA. THIS, SAUDIS WERE PREPARED TO DO. HIS THIRD CONDITION, SAID NIMEIRI, WAS THAT THE DISPATCH OF SUDANESE TROOPS TO BERBERA BE AN OVERT ACTION SOLIDLY BASED ON AN EXISTING REGIONAL DEFENSE ARRANGEMENT. HE TOLD BARRE THAT HE SHOULD APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE EITHER THROUGH THE OAU OR THE ARAB LEAGUE. IF EITHER BODY ENDORSED THE APPEAL, THEN SUDAN WOULD RESPOND, PROVIDED SOME OTHER
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 297893

OAU OR ARAB LEAGUE COUNTRIES ALSO DID SO. NIMEIRI SAID HE HAD NOT HEARD FROM SIAD SINCE HE HAD SET FORTH THESE CONDITIONS.

4. I SAID THAT I FELT THE PRESIDENT HAD HANDLED THE SITUATION VERY WISELY. I SEEMED TO ME THAT WHAT SIAD BARRE WAS REALLY AFTER WAS AN ARAB DETERRENT FORCE IN THE EVENT THE ETHIOPIANS, WITH SOVIET BACKING, INVADED HIS COUNTRY. NIMEIRI AGREED WITH THIS, AND SAID SUCH A FORCE COULD POSSIBLY SERVE TO DETER ETHIOPIAN/SOVIET ATTACKS, BUT ONLY IF IT HAD THE BLESSING OF EITHER THE OAU OR THE ARAB LEAGUE AND IF IT CONTAINED TROOPS OF MORE THAN ONE FOREIGN COUNTRY.

5. RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO ADDIS ABABA, JIDDA, CAIRO, MOGADISCIO AND MOSCOW.
BERGUS UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, CAT-B, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE297893
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/E:GSCOTT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N770009-0175
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771256/aaaabvlh.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 91453a04-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 237342
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUDANESE ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA SECRET SECRET
TAGS: MASS, MILI, EG, SU, ET, IS, SO, US
To: NAIROBI DJIBOUTI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/91453a04-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009